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NO. 34

12¢

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

WOW!
GET A NEW TERRIBLE TEAM-MATE--
BUBBLE-MASTER--IN...
"WAR OF THE
SUB-HUMANS!"



VILLO IS BACK!!

AND THE WORLD'S VILEST VILLAIN HAS A NEW SURPRISE PACKAGE OF GHASTLY BUSINESS TO SHAKE UP THE CHALLS! AND WITH THE **BARON OF BAD GUYS** IS HIS DIABOLICAL COMPUTER-COMPANION, **BRAINEX**, WHO CLICK-CLICKS THINGS OFF TO A SHUDDERING START WITH A REAL WALLOPER.

WAR OF THE SUB-HUMANS!

...AND INTRODUCING **BUBBLE-MASTER**, THE GLOBE-HEADED GOON, WHOSE BURNING AMBITION DRIVES HIM TO JOIN THE TERRIBLE TEAM!

ART BY: **BOB BROWN**
STORY BY: **F.E. HERRON**

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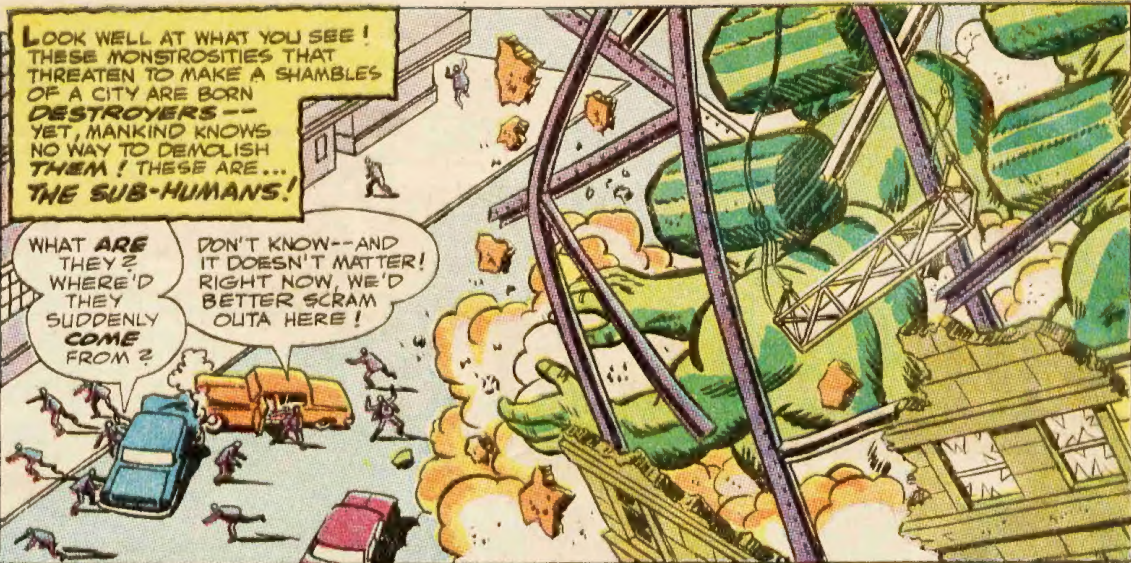
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LOOK WELL AT WHAT YOU SEE!
THESE MONSTROSITIES THAT
THREATEN TO MAKE A SHAMBLES
OF A CITY ARE BORN
DESTROYERS--
YET, MANKIND KNOWS
NO WAY TO DEMOLISH
THEM! THESE ARE...
THE SUB-HUMANS!

WHAT ARE
THEY?
WHERE'D
THEY
SUDDENLY
COME
FROM?

DON'T KNOW--AND
IT DOESN'T MATTER!
RIGHT NOW WE'D
BETTER SCRAM
OUTA HERE!



THEIR SIRENS SCREAMING,
POLICE RUSH TO THE
EMERGENCY...

BR-R-RAT!
BR-RAT!

WHAT A WASTE OF TIME!
THIS IS LIKE THROWING
SNOWBALLS AT A **TANK!**



THEN COMES THE NATIONAL
GUARD, DISPATCHED BY THE
GOVERNOR...

THESE
SHELLS CAN LEVEL A
MOUNTAIN! BUT
THEY'RE NOT MAKING
A **DENT** IN THAT
BABY!

VOOM!



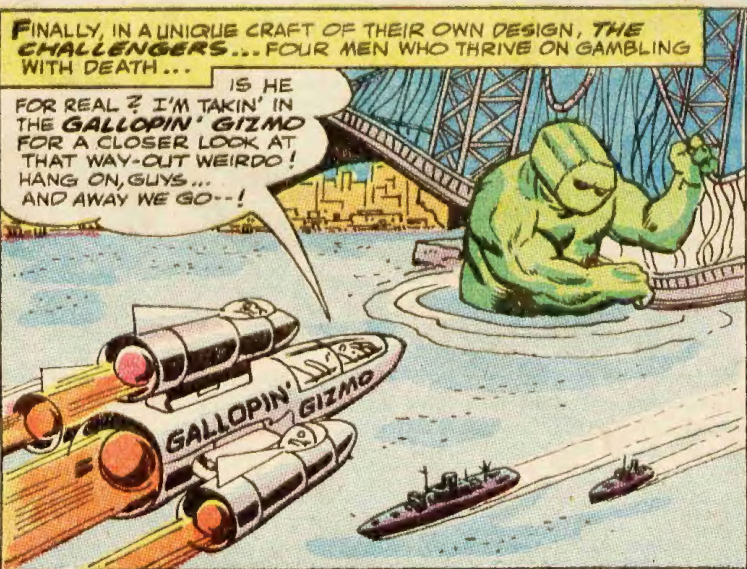
AFTER THAT, THE **U.S. AIR FORCE**
SENT BY AN ALARMED PENTAGON
IN WASHINGTON...

FORGET IT!
ROCKETS LIKE THESE BLEW UP THE
HANOI OIL FIELDS IN VIETNAM--
BUT THEY DON'T DO THE TRICK
HERE!



FINALLY, IN A UNIQUE CRAFT OF THEIR OWN DESIGN, **THE CHALLENGERS**... FOUR MEN WHO THRIVE ON GAMBLING
WITH DEATH...

IS HE
FOR REAL? I'M TAKIN' IN
THE **GALLOPIN' GIZMO**
FOR A CLOSER LOOK AT
THAT WAY-OUT WEIRDO!
HANG ON, GUYS...
AND AWAY WE GO--!



I WONDER HOW MUCH HE'D
CHARGE TO HAUNT A
HOUSE? RED, GET SET
TO ZERO IN! I'M GOING
IN FOR THE KILL!



THIS SHOCK-RAY BLAST OUGHTA ROCK 'IM RIGHT INTO SLEEPVILLE ! I MEAN, LIKE IT SHOULD TAKE THAT CREEP APART !



SHPOON!

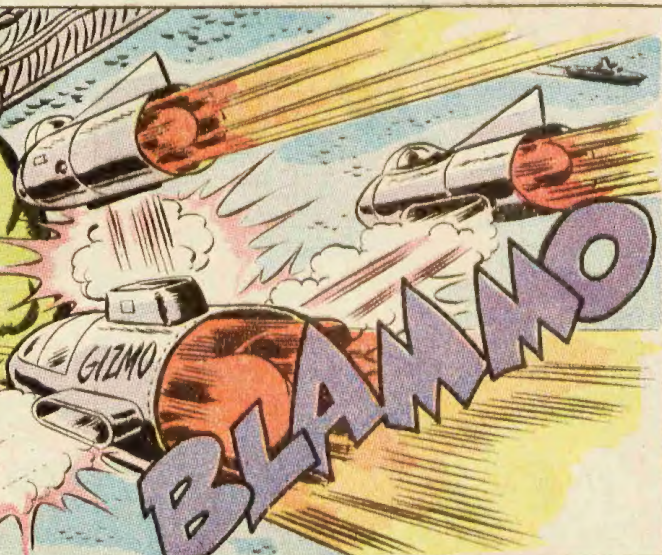
MAN, WAS I WRONG ! THAT KING-SIZE FINK IS STILL ON HIS FEET !

YEAH, ROCKY--AND THERE ARE THREE **MORE** LIKE HIM ! LET'S SPLIT UP--WE'LL EACH TACKLE ONE OF THEM... AND SEE WHAT MAKES 'EM TICK ! **READY ?**



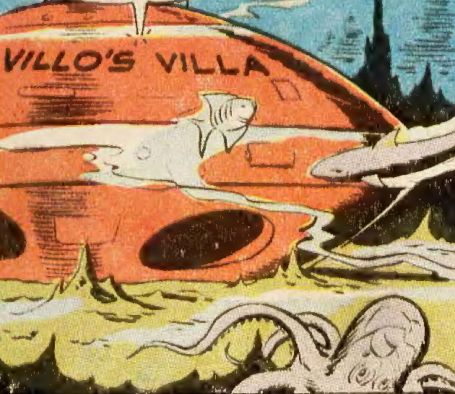
THREE BUTTONS ARE PUSHED SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND THE **GIZMO** FLIES APART LIKE AN EXPLODING GRENADE...

THIS IS IT ! HOLD ONTO YOUR HATS--!



NOW LET'S TAKE A LOOK INTO THE MURKY DEPTHS OF THE SEA, WHERE LURKS A STARTLING MECHANISM--**VILLO'S VILLA**, THE NEWEST THING IN **MOBILE HIDEOUTS**..

ENOUGH, **BRAINEX** ! THAT'S ENOUGH I SAY !



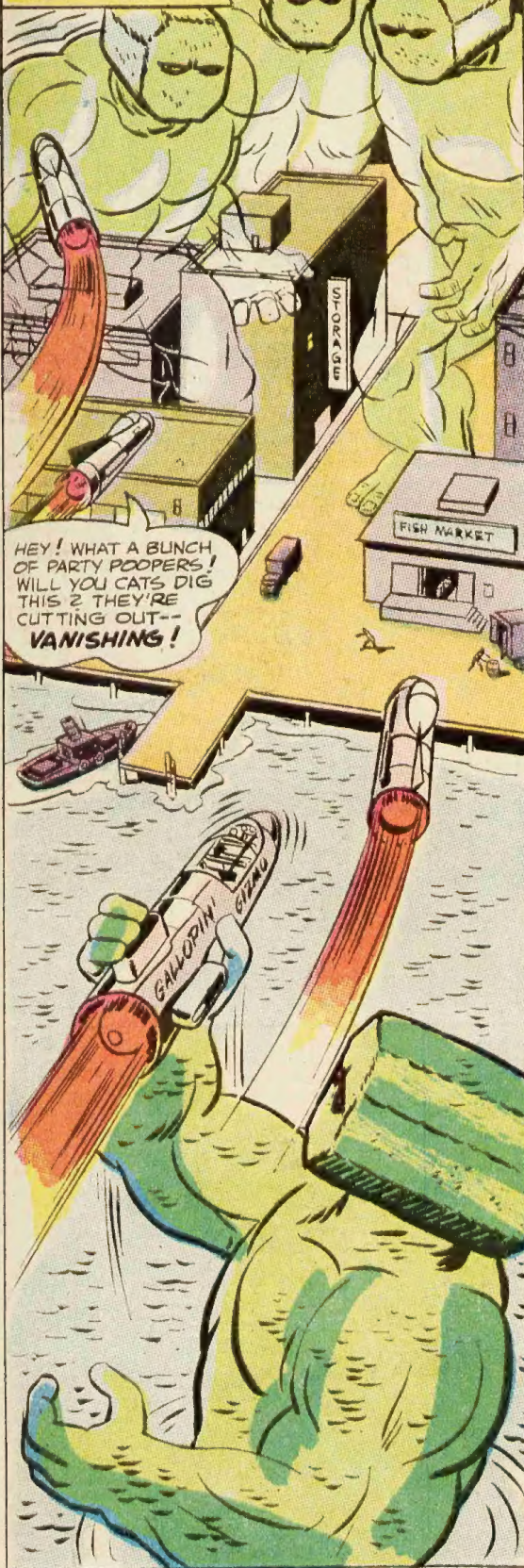
AND INSIDE ARE EARTH'S MOST CLINNING COMPANIONS IN CRIME--THE TERRORIZING TEAM OF **VILLO**, THE WORLD'S WORST VILLAIN, AND **BRAINEX**, THE WORLD'S MOST DIABOLICAL MACHINE ! *

RECALL THE **SUB-HUMANS**, AT ONCE ! I DON'T WANT THEM TO KILL THE **CHALLENGERS**--AND ROB ME OF MY GLORY ! RECALL THEM, **BRAINEX** !



*IF YOU MISSED THEIR DEVILISH DEBUT IN ISSUE NO. 50, BEG, BORROW OR TRADE A COPY !

INSTANTLY, AS IF BY SOME KIND OF EYE-POPPING, AWESOME MAGIC...

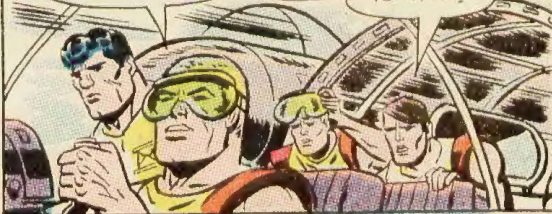


WITH THE ABSENCE OF THE UN-
BEATABLE THREATS, THE FOUR SEPARATE CRAFT
ARE JOINED AGAIN, AS IF DRAWN BY MAGNETIC
FORCE...



HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN
THOSE TRICK-OR-
TREAT GOONS, PROF?
AND WHAT DO YOU
FIGURE **HAPPENED**
TO THEM?

THEY WERE **MATERIALIZED**
ENERGY, I'D SAY OFF-
HAND! BUT MATERIALIZED
FROM WHAT--OR WHERE--
IS ANYBODY'S GUESS!
I WOULDN'T EVEN DARE
TO TRY!



WHILE AT VILLO'S VILLA...

NOW, I'LL RETURN THE
SUB-HUMANS TO THE
CALCULUS DIMENSION
FROM WHERE ONLY ONE
WITH MY SPECIAL TALENTS
COULD SUMMON THEM!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.



WHY SO GLUM? YOU **DID** ASK ME TO CONJURE UP A HEADACHE FOR YOUR FOES--AND I THOUGHT THE **SUB-HUMANS** WERE QUITE APPROPRIATE!

TRUE--I WANTED TO GIVE THOSE **CHALLS** A REAL SHOCKER--A LITTLE SAMPLE OF THINGS TO COME! BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT CONCERNS ME NOW...



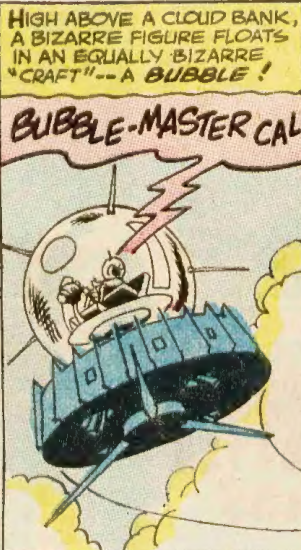
I **FAILED** IN MY PREVIOUS ATTEMPT TO KILL THOSE SO-CALLED STALWART HEROES--AND **THAT** JOLTED MY PRIDE... NOT TO MENTION MY **REPUTATION**! GANGLAND'S BEGINNING TO WHISPER THAT MAYBE I'M **NOT** THE WORLD'S WORST, VILEST, MOST EVIL VILLAIN! THAT HURTS, **BRAINEX**! AND I'M A SORE LOSER!



WELL, I'M BACK FOR **REVENGE**... TO DESTROY THE **CHALLS** NOT FOR MONEY OR WITH A MOTIVE-- BUT OUT OF **SHEER MEANNESS**--
HMM--WHAT'S COOKING, **BRAINEX**?

BUBBLE-MASTER CALLING VILLO! COME IN, VILLO!

SHHH!
I'M RECEIVING VOICE PULSATIONS ON MY REV TRANSISTORS! YOU CAN'T SENSE THEM, VILLO, BUT I DO!



HIGH ABOVE A CLOUD BANK, A BIZARRE FIGURE FLOATS IN AN EQUALLY BIZARRE "CRAFT"--A **BUBBLE**!

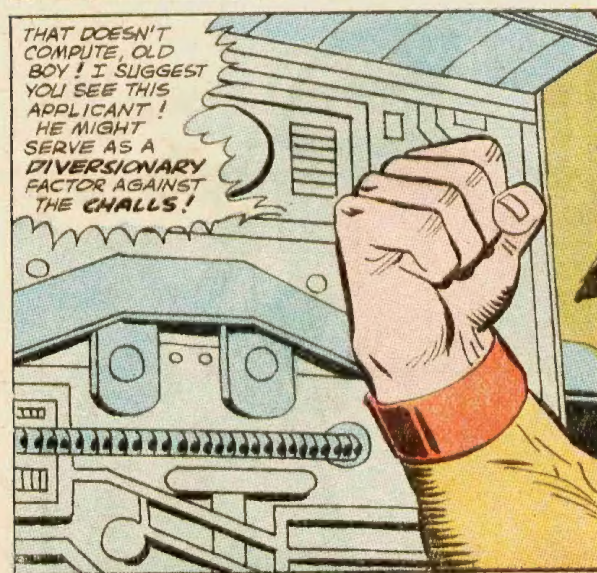
BUBBLE-MASTER CALLING VILLO! CAN YOU READ ME, VILLO?



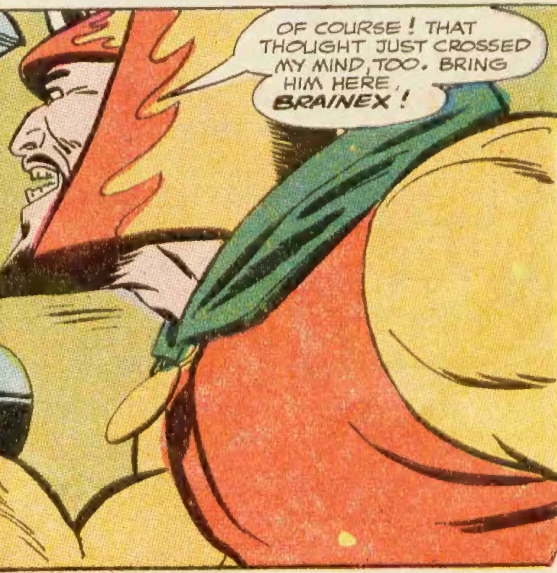
BUBBLE-MASTER CALLING VILLO! CAN YOU READ ME, VILLO?

YOU'RE PROBABLY BEING CONTACTED BY AN INFERIOR CROOK WHO WANTS A JOB! I'LL BRING HIM IN FOR AN INTERVIEW!

CUT IT OUT, **BRAINEX**! I CAN'T AFFORD TO WASTE MY TIME ON SECOND-RATERS... BUNGLING, AMBITIOUS AMATEURS...



THAT DOESN'T COMPUTE, OLD BOY! I SUGGEST YOU SEE THIS APPLICANT! HE MIGHT SERVE AS A **DIVERSIONARY** FACTOR AGAINST THE **CHALLS**!



OF COURSE! THAT THOUGHT JUST CROSSED MY MIND, TOO. BRING HIM HERE, **BRAINEX**!

FROM BENEATH THE SEA STREAK
ATTRACTION RAYS, GRASPING
THE BUBBLE CRAFT LIKE A HUGE,
INVISIBLE HAND...

GREAT! I MADE CONTACT!
THIS IS THE LUCKIEST DAY
OF MY LIFE! VILLO WILL
GRANT ME AN AUDIENCE!



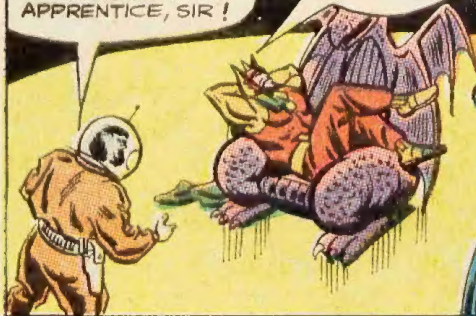
GREETINGS, PEER OF DEVILRY!
I HUMBLY THANK YOU FOR
GRANTING ME THIS VISIT.
AND BELIEVE ME--I HAVE
NO OTHER PURPOSE BUT
TO SERVE YOU!



WHEN I SAW THOSE
SUB-HUMANS, I
INSTANTLY ASSUMED
THEY WERE YOUR
CREATION BECAUSE
NO ONE BUT THE
GREAT VILLO COULD
CONCEIVE A THREAT
OF SUCH PROPORTIONS--
SO I SET OUT TO CON-
TACT YOU! I'D LIKE
TO SERVE AS YOUR
APPRENTICE, SIR!

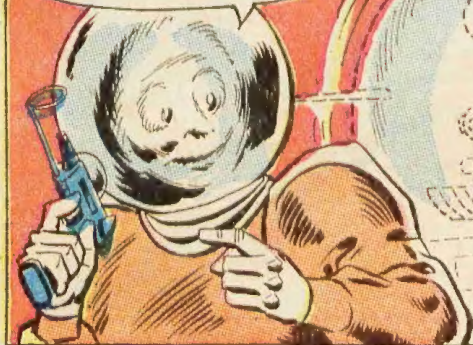
YOUR CREATION?
TELL HIM, VILLO!

WELL, IT WAS
MY SUGGESTION!
ANYWAY, LISTEN
YOU--I'M NOT
EXACTLY IN THE
MARKET FOR
HIRED HELP!



FORGIVE ME IF I'M BEING
PRESUMPTUOUS, BUT PERHAPS
I CAN DEMONSTRATE HOW
VALUABLE I COULD BE!
WITH THIS GUN, I CAN
CREATE A VARIETY OF
BUBBLES, YES, BUBBLES
THAT WILL ASTOUND YOU!
THAT'S WHY I CALL MYSELF,
"BUBBLE-MASTER!"

HO-HUM...
PROCEED,
IF YOU
WISH...



I'M ETERNALLY GRATEFUL
FOR ALLOWING ME THIS
TRYOUT. HERE GOES--!

STOP IT, YOU DOLT--
CEASE!... OR I'LL
FEED YOU
AND YOUR
ACCURSED
BUBBLES TO
THE SHARKS!

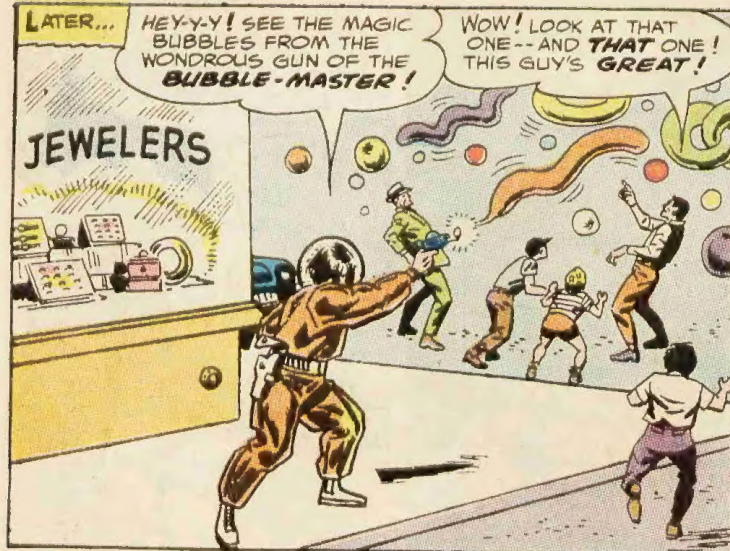


DON'T RILE HIM,
BUBBLE-MASTER...
HE'S NOT IN THE
MOOD FOR IT!

YOU DO HAVE A UNIQUE
BIT OF MERCHANDISE
THERE, BUT IN MY BUSINESS,
YOU'RE STILL INEXPERIENCED!
SO I'LL TELL YOU WHAT--GO
OUT AND GET YOURSELF A
REPUTATION AGAINST THE
CHALLENGERS, THEN
MAYBE WE'LL TALK
FURTHER!

MY UNDYING
THANKS,
VILLO!
AND I
WON'T
FAIL YOU--
I
PROMISE
YOU!





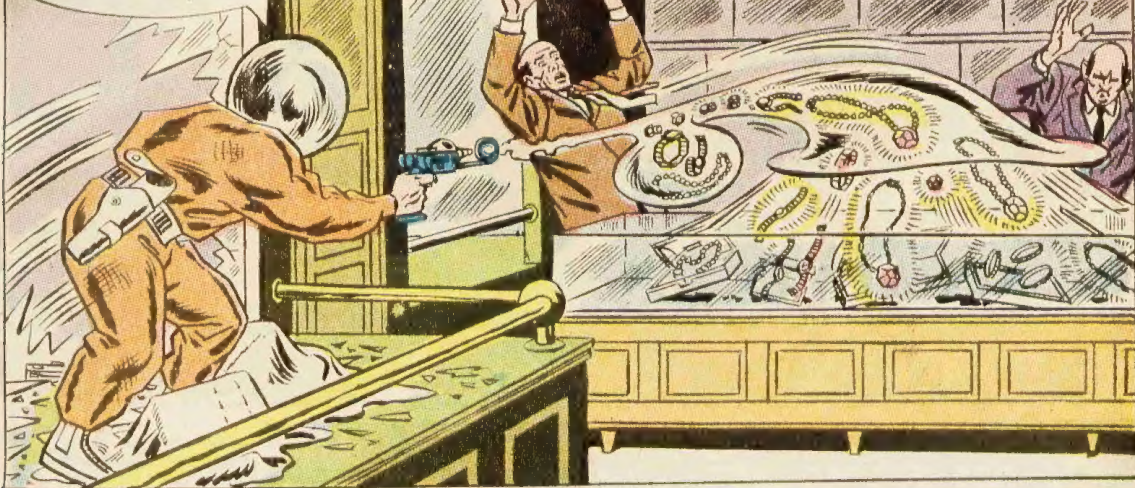
For the **MOST** in **THRILLS**...

Go-Go-Go!



A NEAT WAY TO FETCH BAUBLES WITH A BUBBLE--A VACUUM BUBBLE! NO HARM IN TAKING ALONG SOME SOUVENIRS THAT I CAN CONVERT TO POCKET-MONEY WHILE GIVING THE CHALLS A BAD TIME!

CLANG! CLANG!

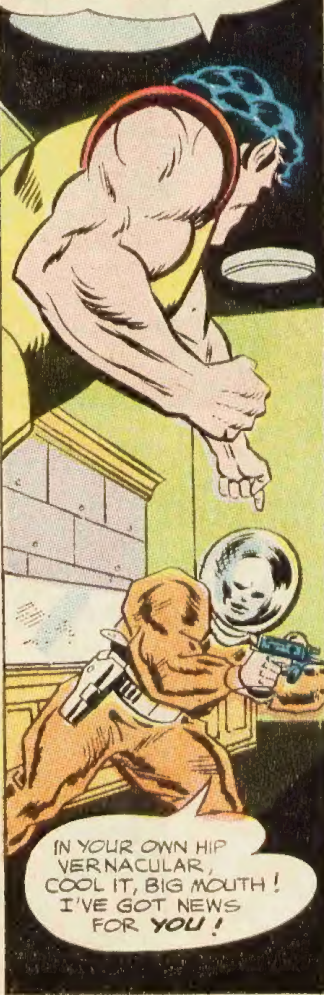


LEAVING THEIR CRAFT HOVERING ABOVE ON AUTOMATIC PILOT, THE FAMED DEATH-CHEATERS DROP TO THE STREET...



MAN, LIKE WHAT KIND OF A SCHOOL DROPOUT WOULD PULL A KOOKIE STUNT LIKE THIS IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?

HEY! THAT'S HIM! THE CAT WITH THE BUBBLE-HEAD! IS HE PUTTIN' US ON?



IN YOUR OWN HIP VERNACULAR, COOL IT, BIG MOUTH! I'VE GOT NEWS FOR YOU!

LET ME DEMONSTRATE MY FLAT BUBBLES! I USE 'EM TO FLATTEN FOOLS LIKE YOU!

YOW!!

THIS IS LIKE GETTIN' SLUGGED WITH A PIZZA!!

FLAP! FLOP! SLAP!



MORE BUBBLES-- AND MORE BUBBLES...UNTIL THE CHALLENGERS ARE OVERWHELMED BY A VERITABLE TIDAL WAVE ...

I'M GONNA WASH YOU GUYS RIGHT OUTA MY HAIR! GET IT? HA, HA, HA! HOW DO YOU LIKE THOSE "RAINSTORM BUBBLES"?

! GASP! SPUTTER!
HE SLAPPED US WITH A DELUGE!

I AIN'T TAKIN' NO MORE! I'VE JUST ABOUT HAD IT WITH THAT LITTLE YO-YO!

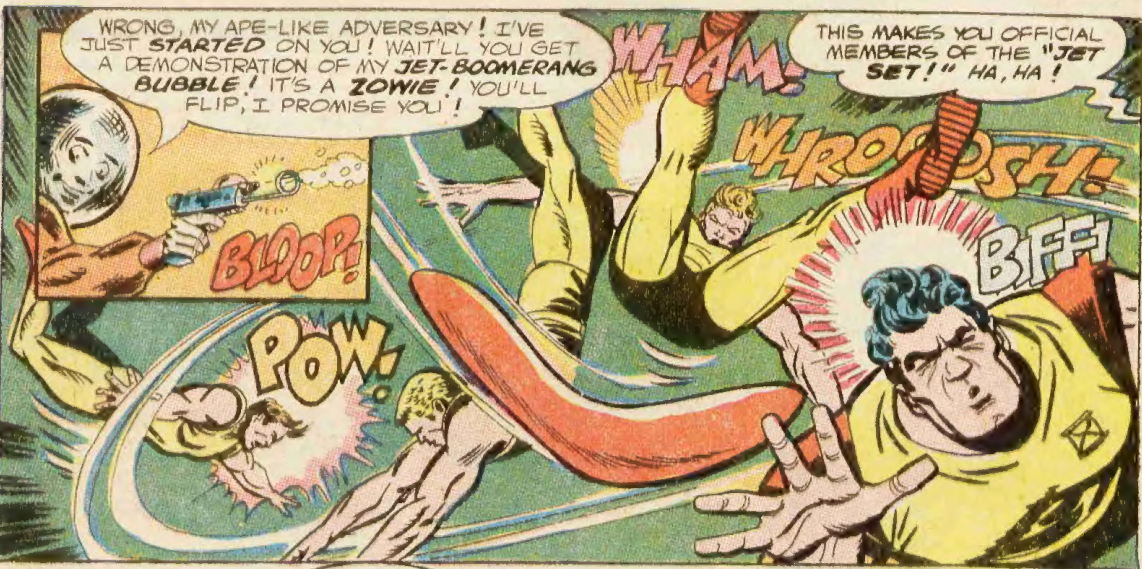


MAKE SAPS OUTA US, WILL HE? THAT FINK AIN'T GONNA GET AWAY WITH IT! I'LL DEFLATE HIS BUBBLE-HEAD LIKE POPPIN' AIR OUT OF A BALLOON!



WRONG, MY APE-LIKE ADVERSARY! I'VE JUST STARTED ON YOU! WAIT'LL YOU GET A DEMONSTRATION OF MY JET-BOOMERANG BUBBLE! IT'S A ZOWIE! YOU'LL FLIP, I PROMISE YOU!

THIS MAKES YOU OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE "JET SET!" HA, HA!



YOU CATS BEGINNIN' TO FEEL ANY BETTER? I'M STILL A LITTLE DIZZY-- AND NO CRACKS, RED! HEY, ACE! HE'S BLOWIN' THE SCENE!

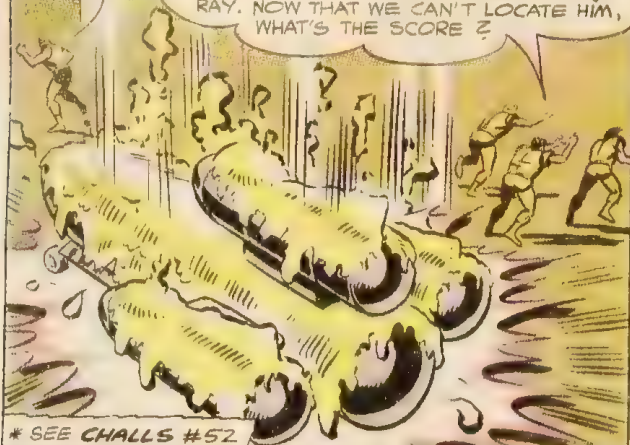
NOT A CHANCE, ROCKY! WE'LL NAIL HIM WITH THE GALLOPIN' GIZMO! GET CRACKING!

STILL ASKING FOR IT, AREN'T YOU? DON'T YOU GUYS KNOW WHEN TO QUIT? OKAY, IF YOU INSIST--HOPE YOU LIKE THE TASTE OF MY BUBBLE-GUM BUBBLE! AND, INCIDENTALLY, I'LL GIVE YOUR REGARDS TO VILLO! UN-HAPPY LANDING!



YOU HEAR THAT? HE MENTIONED **VILLO!**

YEAH, I HEARD! WE SHOULD'VE GUESSED THAT KING-SIZE KOOK WAS MIXED UP IN THIS! ...TOO BAD HE OUTFOXED YOU, PROF, BY HAVING **BRAINEX** DESTROY YOUR DETECTOR* WITH A DESTRUCTO-RAY. NOW THAT WE CAN'T LOCATE HIM, WHAT'S THE SCORE?



* SEE CHALLS #52

WE AIN'T GONNA LET A SQUIRT LIKE HIM MAKE BIG DOPES OUTA US, ARE WE? CAN'T WE GET THE GIZMO AIR-BORNE, AND TAIL HIM?

NO, THAT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION, ROCKY. IT'LL REQUIRE A SPECIAL CHEMICAL TO CLEAN OFF THIS STUFF. BY THEN, **BUBBLE-MASTER** COULD BE HALFWAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY!



WHAT DO YOU THINK THE CONNECTION IS BETWEEN THAT BUBBLE-BRAIN AND **VILLO?**

I DON'T KNOW, RED, BUT YOU CAN BET YOUR BATMAN BUTTON **VILLO'S** BACK IN ACTION. HE'S ALL HEART, YOU KNOW. PROBABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE WRECKING CREW GOONS WE TANGLED WITH EARLIER.



LATER, AT **VILLO'S VILLA** ...

ACTUALLY, **BUBBLE-MASTER**, THAT WASN'T A BAD PERFORMANCE! BUT GET ONE THING STRAIGHT--I'M THE ONLY ONE PERMITTED TO **KILL THEM!**

DOES THAT MEAN YOU'LL LET ME SERVE UNDER YOU, **VILLO?** I HADN'T DARED EVEN **HOPE** THAT I'D MAKE THE GRADE SO SOON!

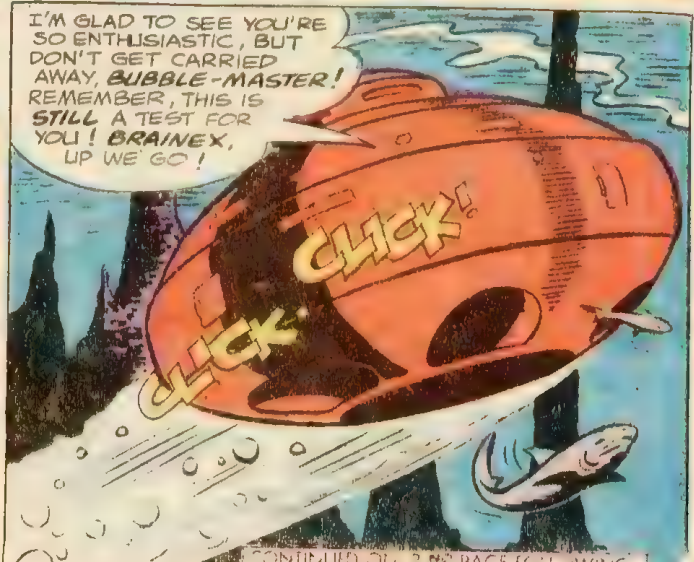


LET'S NOT **RUSH** THINGS! TELL YOU WHAT! I'M SURFACING MY **VILLA** TO GO ASHORE! I THINK I'LL LET YOU WORK WITH ME ON ANOTHER TRIAL RUN!

ME? WORK WITH THE ONE AND ONLY **VILLO?** ME? ACTUALLY SHARE AN ADVENTURE WITH THE MOST ADMIRED--AND BY FAR, THE WORST--VILLAIN ALIVE? IT'S AN EVENT I'LL LONG REMEMBER!



I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE SO ENTHUSIASTIC, BUT DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY, **BUBBLE-MASTER!** REMEMBER, THIS IS STILL A TEST FOR YOU! **BRAINEX**, UP WE GO!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

WHAT'S OUR PLAN, VILLO?

"OUR" PLAN? YOU'RE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS TOO FAST! MY PLAN IS TO TAKE THE **CHALLENGERS** IN A NIFTY SURPRISE MANEUVER!

AND IT'LL BE A SURPRISE FOR YOU TOO **BUBBLE-MASTER**! THINK OF MY **DISGRACE**-- IF WORD GOT OUT THAT I NEEDED HELP ON A JOB! THAT WOULD BE A FATE WORSE THAN FAILURE! AND I CAN LEAVE IT TO YOU TO TOOT YOUR OWN HORN!

AN IDEAL LOCATION! FROM CONCEALMENT IN THE WOODS, I'LL SPRING MY FOUL SCHEME TO WRECK THE **CHALLENGERS**!

HOLD IT, OLD BOY! THAT **DOESN'T** COMPUTE! YOU MEAN **OUR** SCHEME, DON'T YOU? REMEMBER, I'M NOT AN AMBITIOUS AMATEUR!

OH, DON'T BE SO TOUCHY, **BRAINEX**! IT WAS ONLY A FIGURE OF SPEECH! HONESTLY, FOR A **MACHINE**--YOU'RE THE **END**!

THERE WE GO WITH THE "**MACHINE**" BIT AGAIN! WHY DON'T YOU LAY OFF? I TELL YOU, **VILLO**, ONE OF THESE DAYS... YOU'LL GO TOO FAR...

IF YOU DON'T MIND A SUGGESTION, SIR--SINCE **BRAINEX** CAN ACCOMPLISH MOST **ANYTHING**, WHY DON'T YOU LET HIM KNOCK OFF THE **CHALLENGERS**?

WHAT? WHAT'S THAT? HOW DARE YOU SHOW SUCH EFFRONTERY? I DON'T NEED ANYBODY'S HELP TO GET THEM!

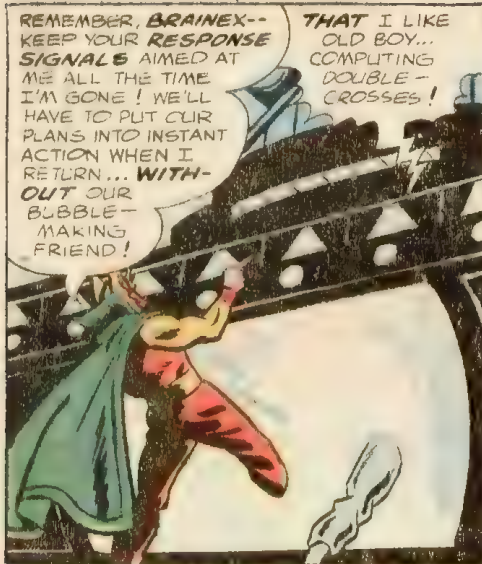
WHAT **BUBBLE-MASTER** SAID COMPUTES NICELY, OLD BOY! I COM MEMOR HIM!

COMMEND HIM, DO YOU? GET THIS STRAIGHT, UPSTART, ONCE AND FOR ALL! **I--AND I ALONE**-- WILL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF ERASING THE **CHALLENGERS**! IF YOU EVER SO MUCH WHISPER ANOTHER SUGGESTION, I'LL KICK YOU CLEAR OUT OF HERE! **UNDERSTAND?**

I-I'LL NEVER MAKE THAT MISTAKE AGAIN, **VILLO**! I PROMISE YOU!

REMEMBER THAT! NOW FOLLOW ME! WE'LL REAPPEAR ELSEWHERE-- TO BRING AN ABRUPT END TO THE **CHALLENGERS'** ANNOYING CAREER!

THIS IS MY BIG BREAK, **VILLO**. YOU CAN BE SURE I WON'T FLUFF IT!



REMEMBER, BRAINEX--
KEEP YOUR RESPONSE
SIGNALS AIMED AT
ME ALL THE TIME
I'M GONE! WE'LL
HAVE TO PUT OUR
PLANS INTO INSTANT
ACTION WHEN I
RETURN... WITH-
OUT OUR
BUBBLE-
MAKING
FRIEND!

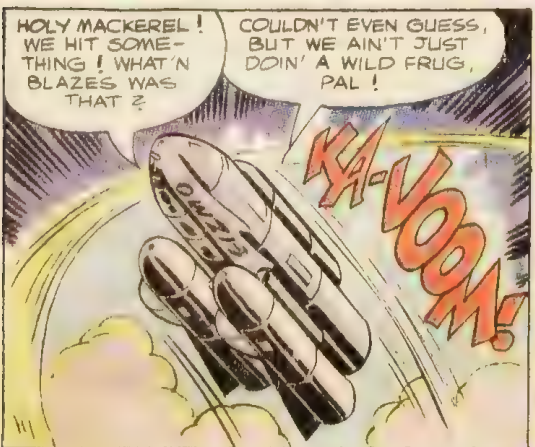
THAT I LIKE
OLD BOY...
COMPUTING
DOUBLE-
CROSSES!



MEANWHILE
WITH THE
GALLOPIN'
GIZMO
BACK IN
SHAPE, THE
CHALLS
PROWL THE
SKYWAYS...

VILLO'S
PLAYIN' IT
REAL COOL,
CHUMS!
NO SIGN
OF HIM
YET!

EVER HEAR OF THE LULL
BEFORE A STORM, ROCKY?
SO--DON'T RELAX!
REMEMBER, WE'RE
HIS NUMBER ONE
TARGET!



HOLY MACKEREL!
WE HIT SOME-
THING! WHAT'N
BLAZES WAS
THAT?

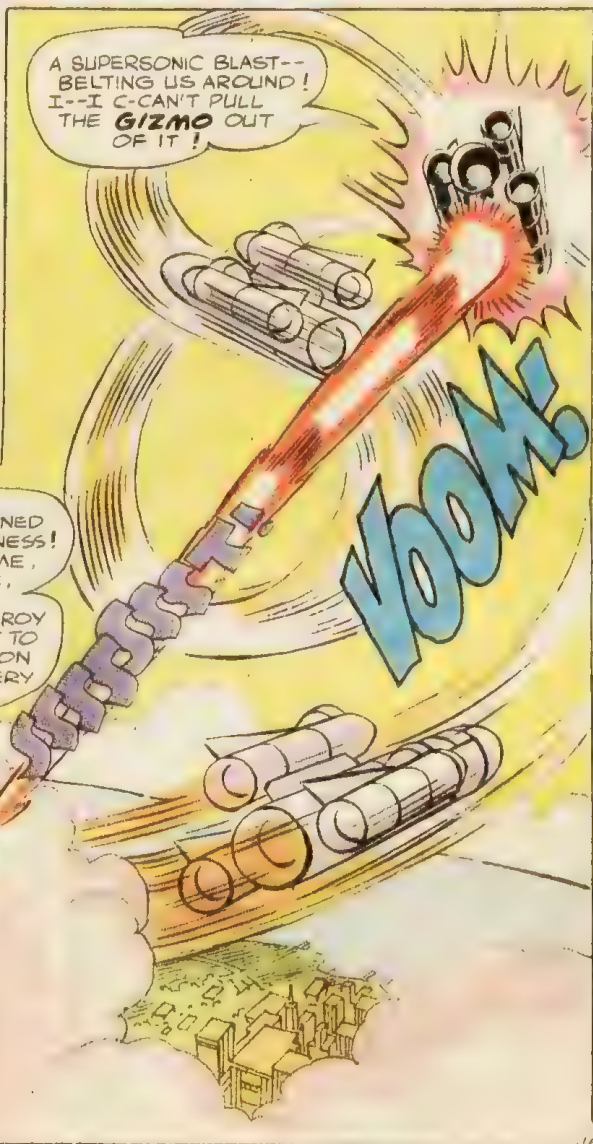
COULDN'T EVEN GUESS,
BUT WE AIN'T JUST
DOIN' A WILD FRUG,
PAL!

KA-VOOM!



YOU'VE GOT 'EM,
VILLO! THAT LITTLE
THINGAMAJIG SURE
CARRIES A WALLOP.
DOESN'T IT?

AND WHY NOT?
I'M THE MOST
DEVILISHLY DETERMINED
VILLAIN IN THE BUSINESS!
IT TOOK A LITTLE TIME,
BUT SOONER OR LATER,
I KNEW I'D GET THEM!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO DESTROY
THEM... JUST YET! I WANT TO
PROLONG THEIR DESTRUCTION
SO THAT I CAN SAVOR EVERY
MOMENT OF THEIR
AGONY!



A SUPERSONIC BLAST--
BELTING US AROUND!
I--I C-CAN'T PULL
THE GIZMO OUT
OF IT!

VOOM!

AROUND AND AROUND GOES THE GALLOPIN' GIZMO, SPINNING FASTER AND FASTER-- CRAZILY...

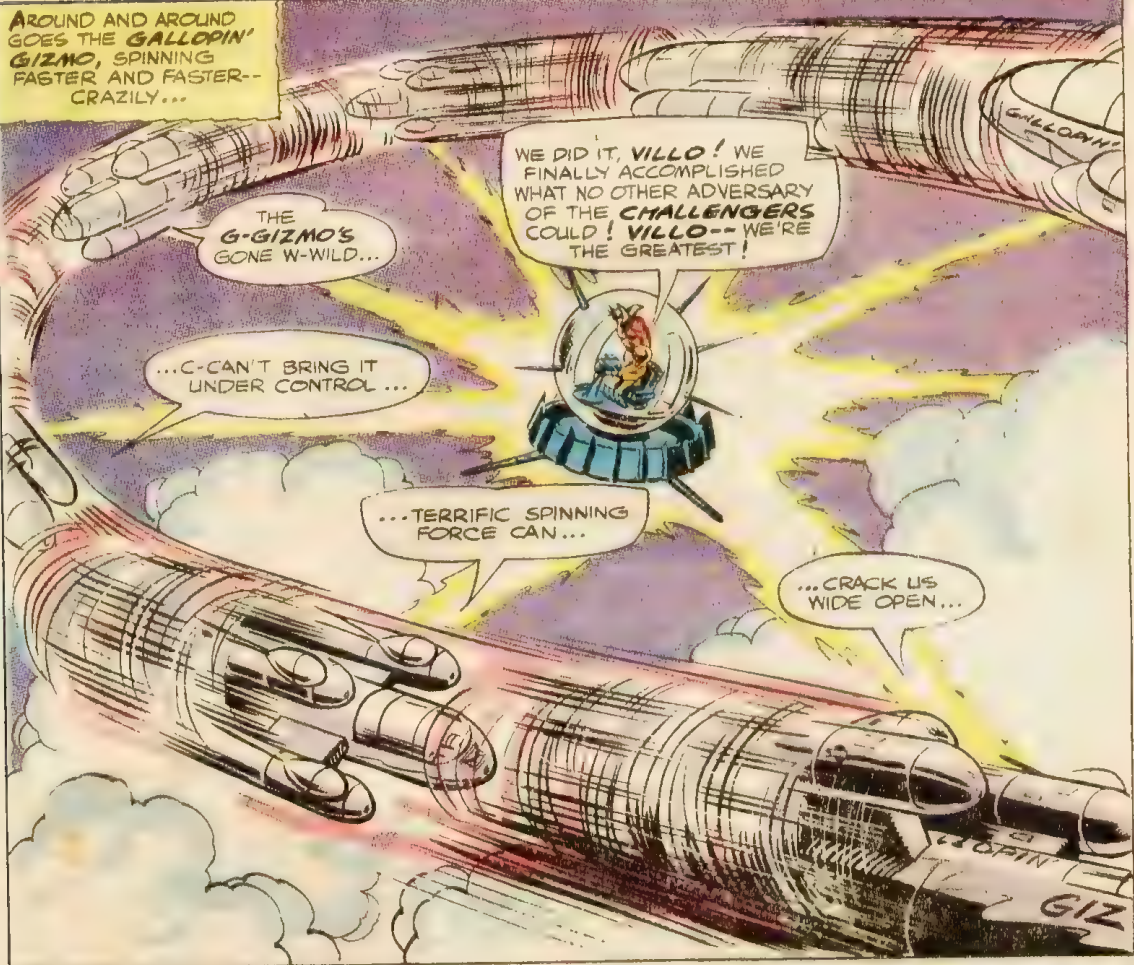
THE G-GIZMO'S GONE W-WILD...

...C-CAN'T BRING IT UNDER CONTROL...

...TERRIFIC SPINNING FORCE CAN...

...CRACK US WIDE OPEN...

WE DID IT, VILLO! WE FINALLY ACCOMPLISHED WHAT NO OTHER ADVERSARY OF THE CHALLENGERS COULD! VILLO-- WE'RE THE GREATEST!

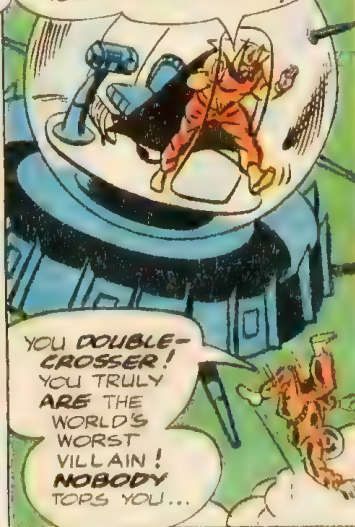


"WE", EH? YOU FIND THAT WORD QUITE TO YOUR LIKING, DON'T YOU, BUBBLE-MASTER?

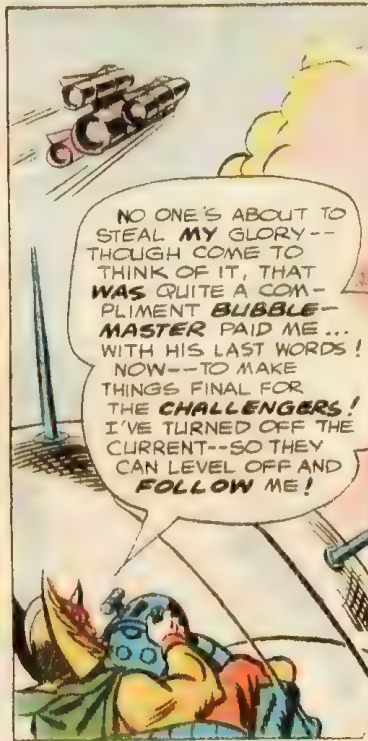
IT'S A PRIVILEGE AND AN HONOR TO SAY "WE"-- WHEN IT MEANS YOU AND ME, VILLO! THIS IS THE PROUDEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE-- SHARING THIS MONUMENTAL EVENT WITH YOU!

WHY, YOU PUFFED-UP LITTLE PAWN-- NOBODY SHARES ANYTHING WITH ME! OUT YOU GO! YOU DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS SIMPLY USING YOU, DID YOU? GOODBYE, BUBBLE-MASTER! I HOPE YOU HAVE A TRICK BUBBLE TO LAND YOU SAFELY BELOW!

YOU DOUBLE-CROSSER! YOU TRULY ARE THE WORLD'S WORST VILLAIN! NOBODY TORS YOU...

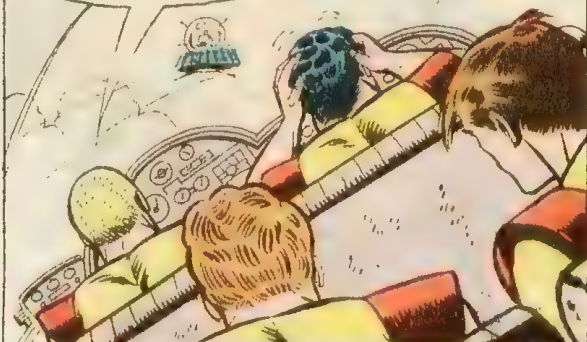


NO ONE'S ABOUT TO STEAL MY GLORY-- THOUGH COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT WAS QUITE A COMPLIMENT BUBBLE-MASTER PAID ME... NOW-- TO MAKE THINGS FINAL FOR THE CHALLENGERS! I'VE TURNED OFF THE CURRENT-- SO THEY CAN LEVEL OFF AND FOLLOW ME!



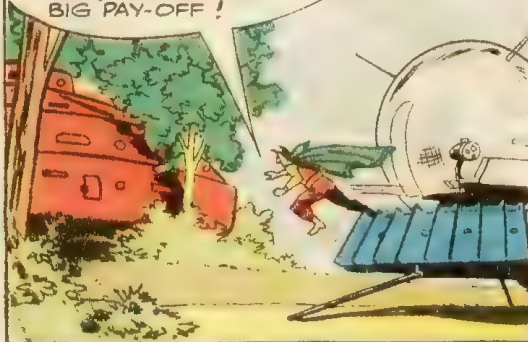
MAN-OH-MAN! I'VE STILL GOT SWINGIN' COBWEBS IN MY HEAD! THAT MERRY-GO-ROUNDER WAS SHEER **MURDER!**

WE'RE **ALL** SHAKEN UP, ROCKY! BUT DON'T LOSE YOUR COOL, AS YOU WOULD SAY! WE'RE STILL IN SHAPE TO TAIL **VILLO!** AND WHEN WE **CATCH HIM...**



WITHIN SIGHT OF HIS MOBILE HIDEOUT, THE BARON OF BAD CHARACTERS LANDS...

TOO BAD I HAD TO UNLOAD **BUBBLE-MASTER** SO I COULD GLOAT ABOUT MY ULTIMATE TRIUMPH AND ENJOY HIS VEXATION AT USING HIS OWN CRAFT TO LURE THE **CHALLENGERS** HERE! NOW FOR THE **BIG PAY-OFF!**



BRAINEX WILL CAPTURE THEM IN A **PARALYZING RAY...** AND THEY'LL BE AT MY MERCY--AS I **ONCE** HAD THEM! BUT THIS TIME, I **SHAN'T** FAIL! **REVENGE!**

CLICK-CLICK-

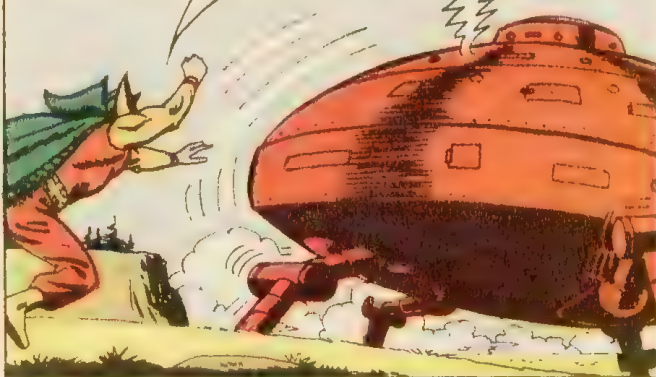
HUH? WHAT'S THAT?



YOU **DOUBLE-CROSSER, BRAINEX!** YOU'RE STEALING MY THUNDER! I'M THE **KING OF THE DOUBLE-CROSSERS--** NOT **YOU!** WAIT FOR ME, I ORDER YOU!

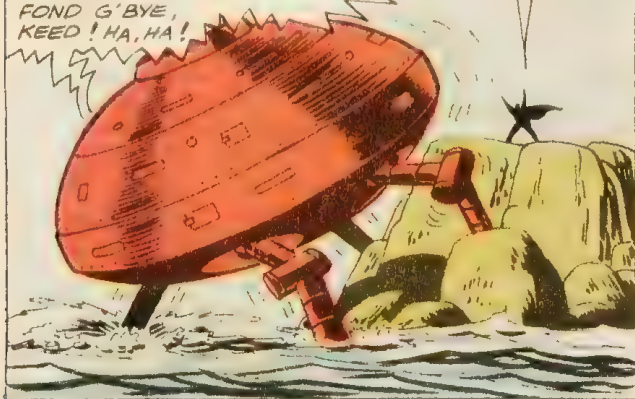
CLICK-CLICK!

THAT DOESN'T COMPUTE, OLD BOY!



JUST A "MACHINE," AM I? HA! I WARNED YOU, YOU'D GO TOO FAR ONE DAY, **HUGGING ALL THE CREDIT FOR YOURSELF!** YOU'VE GOT SUCH A SWELLED HEAD, LET'S SEE YOU THINK YOURSELF OUT OF THIS. I BID YOU A FOND G'BYE, **KEED!** HA, HA!

PLEASE, **BRAINEX--** WAIT FOR ME! DON'T LEAVE ME... PLEASE...



YOUR COMPUTER PAL JUST COMPUTED YOU OUT OF THE BIG SCENE, **VILLO!** RIGHT NOW-- YOU'RE ALL **MINE, COOL CAT!**

UGH! ALWAYS IT'S THE **CHALLENGERS** WHO TURN DEFEAT INTO SUDDEN VICTORY!



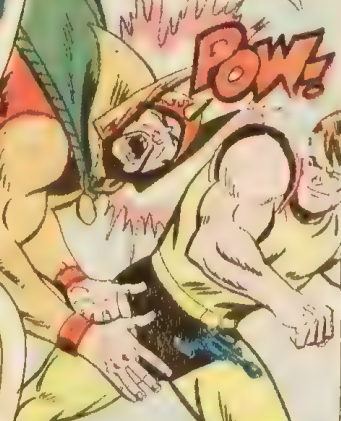
NO FAIR WITH THAT ZAP GUN, SAP!
I'VE SEEN IT IN ACTION BEFORE!
IT MAKES A WEIRDIE BALLOON,
AND YOU JUMP INSIDE AND
DISAPPEAR! HERE, ACE--
CATCH!



NOT ME, THANKS!
I DON'T WANT HIM!
ANYBODY LOOKING
FOR A SLIGHTLY-USED
SECOND-HAND VILLAIN?



YEAH, I ALWAYS WANTED TO
ASK HIM WHO HIS TAILOR IS,
BUT RIGHT NOW, I WANT TO
QUESTION HIM ABOUT
THAT GUN!



IT'S USELESS WITHOUT
BRAINEX'S COOPERATION!
LISTEN, IF I EVER GET MY
HANDS ON THAT TRANSISTOR-
TRAITOR, THERE WON'T BE
ENOUGH LEFT OF HIM TO
COMPUTE WHAT HIT HIM!



WHAT MADE YOU SO NASTY,
ANYWAY? YOU HATE YOUR
MOTHER WHEN YOU WERE
A KID? ANYWAY, YOU'LL
HAVE LOTS OF TIME TO
THINK THINGS OVER,
VILLO, IN A SPECIAL
CELL THAT EVEN **BRAINEX**
COULDN'T GET YOU OUT OF...
IF HE DECIDES TO TRY...

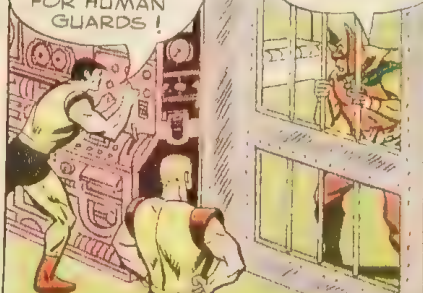


DON'T BE SO OPTIMISTIC!
NO MERE JAIL COULD
EVER HOLD ME!

LATER, IN THE SPECIAL CELL...

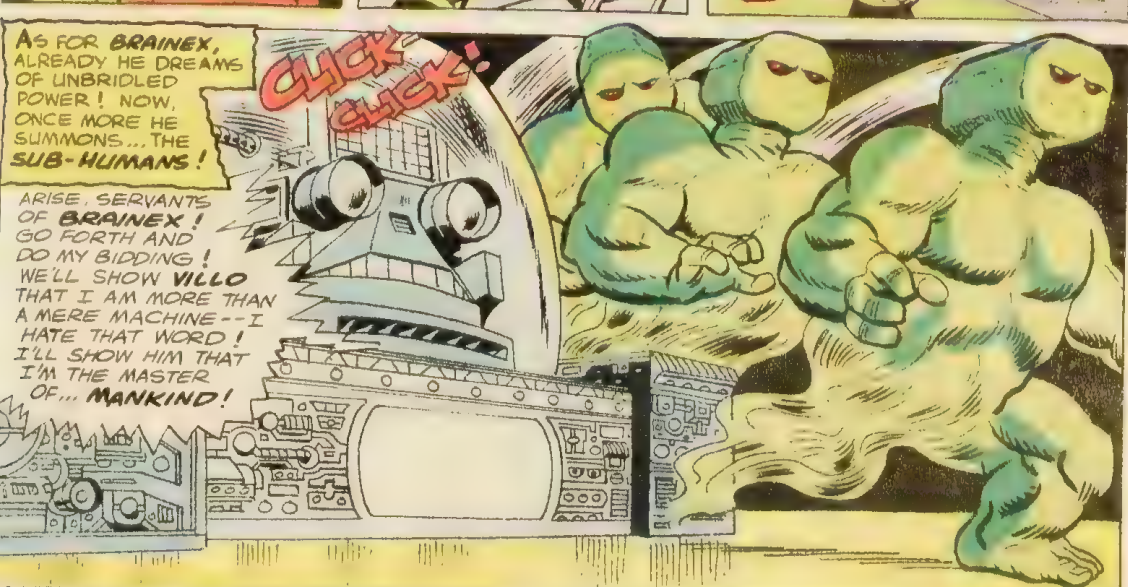
SOME IRONY, **VILLO**--
THIS ESCAPE-PROOF
CELL IS GUARDED
BY A MACHINE!
A MACHINE LED
TO YOUR DOWNFALL,
AND A MACHINE
WILL KEEP YOU
HERE! YOU'RE
TOO CUNNING
FOR HUMAN
GUARDS!

BAH! MY
NEXT
PRIVATE
WAR WILL
BE AGAINST
COMPUTERS!
I VOW IT!
BRAINEX
WILL PAY
FOR THIS!

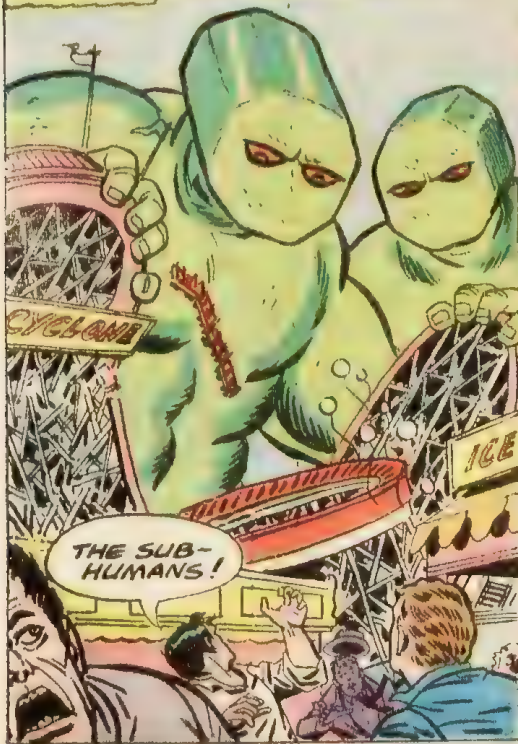


AS FOR **BRAINEX**,
ALREADY HE DREAMS
OF UNBRIDLED
POWER! NOW,
ONCE MORE HE
SUMMONS... THE
SUB-HUMANS!

ARISE, SERVANTS
OF **BRAINEX**!
GO FORTH AND
DO MY BIDDING!
WE'LL SHOW **VILLO**
THAT I AM MORE THAN
A MERE MACHINE--I
HATE THAT WORD!
I'LL SHOW HIM THAT
I'M THE MASTER
OF... **MANKIND!**



AND OUT GO THE CALCULUS CREATURES, REAPPEARING IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY...



ON THE HIGH SEAS...

THE SUB-HUMANS! GET AN S.O.S. OUT! HURRY, MAN!



CONTINUED ON 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING.

The Chips are DOWN GENIA

A VILLAINESS WITH A SUPER-BRAIN, HAS LEARNED THE SECRET IDENTITIES of **BATMAN and SUPERMAN!**

WILL THE WORLD'S FINEST TEAM ACTUALLY KILL TO KEEP HER FROM TELLING THE WORLD WHO THEY REALLY ARE?

FIND OUT IN... ON SALE DEC. 13th



DIRECT CURRENTS

Well, fans, here's our latest report on current events here at DC! We have some really electrifying news for you on coming issues, so don't pull out the plug till we clue you in. Here's the inside info . . .

The **DOOM PATROL**'s down, but not out, as they return from the dead. But for how long, when they're confronted by the terrifying menace of "MANDRED THE EXECUTIONER"? **February issue, No. 109**, on sale Dec. 6.

Out of yesteryear, like a sinister shadow, steps the shaggy, strawlike **SCARECROW**, to terrorize **BATMAN** and **ROBIN** with "FRIGHT OF THE SCARECROW!" Better buy the **February BATMAN, No. 189**, on Dec. 6!

How did the **FLASH** gain his super-speed? If you think you know—or DON'T know—you're in for a shocking surprise when "THE REAL ORIGIN OF THE FLASH" is revealed in the **February issue, No. 167**, on sale Dec. 6!

RED STUART and the crew of the **HAUNTED TANK** ask themselves the most rugged question of all: "WHO DIES NEXT?" This wartime shaker headlines **March's G.I. COMBAT, No. 122**, on the stands Dec. 8.

Lost the planet **THANAGAR**? Lost **HAWKGIRL**? Found **ADAM STRANGE**? Three elements guaranteed to make **THE WORLD THAT VANISHED** in the **March HAWKMAN, No. 18**, the most sensational story yet! On sale Dec. 8.

They were just ordinary people like you and me—but a strange experiment changed their lives! Don't miss **THE TERROR OF THE ENERGY BEINGS** in the **March issue of TALES OF THE UNEXPECTED, No. 99**, on sale Dec. 8.

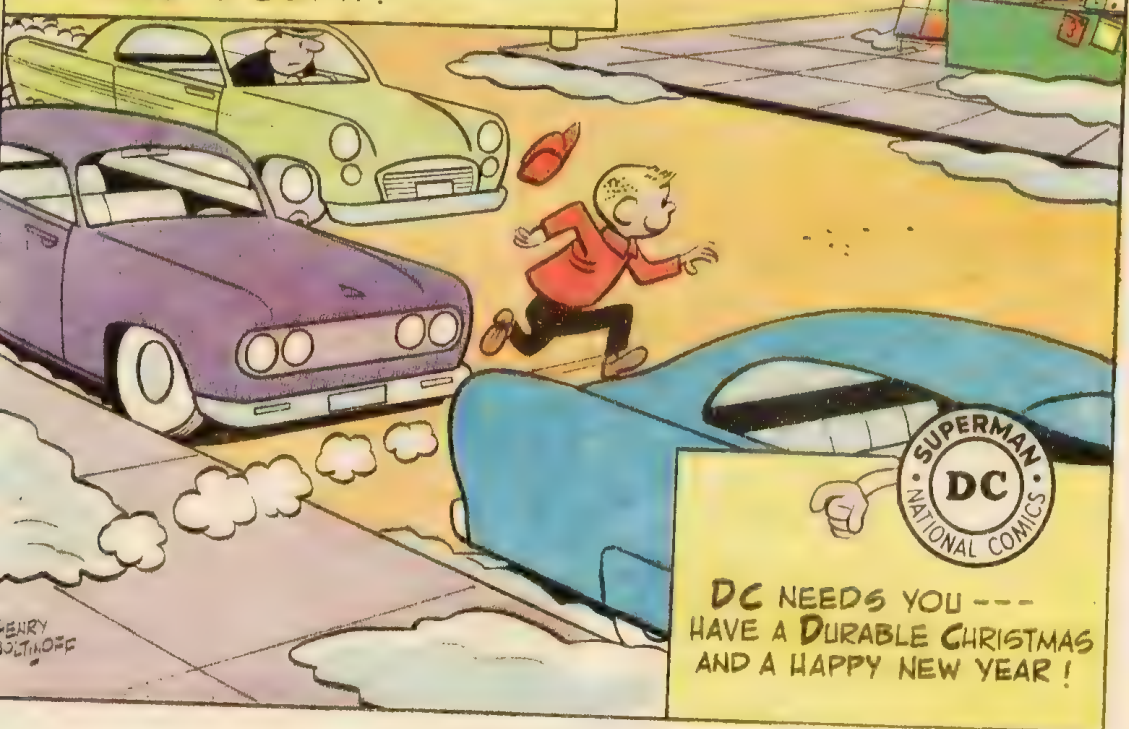
The temple of the species is more deadly than the mole! Can **SUPERMAN** defeat a **FEMALE BRAINIAC** . . . even with the help of **BATMAN** and **ROBIN**? Find out in the **February WORLD'S FINEST, No. 164**, on sale Dec. 13.

ZATANNA's search for her missing father, **ZATARA THE MAGICIAN**, which started in **HAWKMAN**, then shifted to **ATOM** to **GREEN LANTERN** to **ELONGATED MAN**, concludes in the **February JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, No. 51**, on sale Dec. 13.

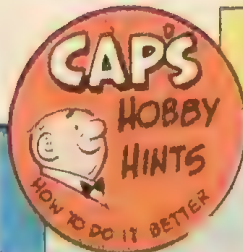
The saga of the **NEW BLACKHAWK ERA** continues in the **February issue, No. 229**, as the **MAGNIFICENT 7** ask for one more chance to prove themselves! If they miff this one, it's **BYE-BYE BLACKHAWKS**! On sale Dec. 13.

You'll share the grief of **CLARK KENT** when he mourns the loss of his beloved wife in "THE DEATH OF **LOIS LANE**!" This moving **IMAGINARY STORY** headlines the **February SUPERMAN, No. 194**, on sale Dec. 15.

WHOA! SURE, YOU'RE EAGER TO GET YOUR FAVORITE DC MAGAZINE BUT DON'T CROSS BETWEEN PARKED CARS TO GET IT!



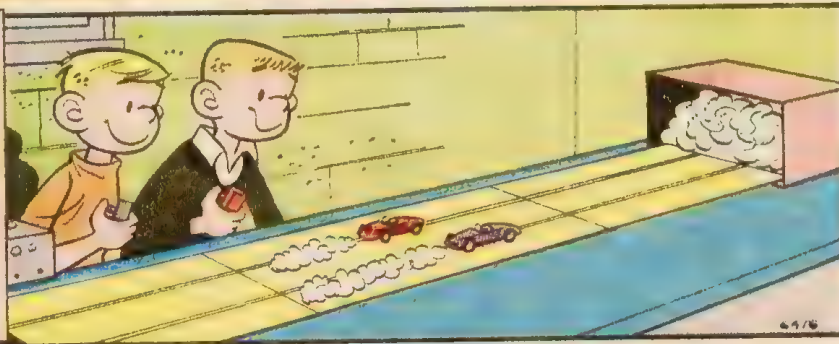
HENRY
BOLTHOFF



KIDS! MAIL IN YOUR HOBBY HINTS TO: CAP'S, NATIONAL COMICS,
575 LEXINGTON AVE. NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022
IF PUBLISHED, YOU WILL RECEIVE \$5 AND THE ORIGINAL ART.



YOU TAKE ALL YOUR STRAIGHT TRACK AND PUT THEM TOGETHER. THEN, GET A SMALL BOX, THE WIDTH OF THE TRACK AND THE HEIGHT OF THE CARS, AND STUFF IT WITH COTTON. THE BOX WILL ACT AS A BRAKE FOR YOUR SPEEDING DRAG CARS. IT'S REAL FUN!



CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK

It's **Yo-Ho-Ho** AND A BOTTLE of **ROOT BEER...**

WHEN OUR GEAR GROUP GO **TREASURE HUNTING** AND A GANG OF MOD PIRATES GO **SCALP HUNTING** for **SCOOTER & COMPANY!**

Super-Special- **"A DAY in the LIFE of the SCOOTER!"**
ON SALE DEC. 22nd



AND ONCE MORE, FOUR AVENGERS STREAK FROM THE SKIES, EACH IN HIS SEPARATE **GIZMO** COMPARTMENT--DARING TO CHALLENGE THINGS THAT CANNOT DIE--BUT THAT CAN DESTROY!

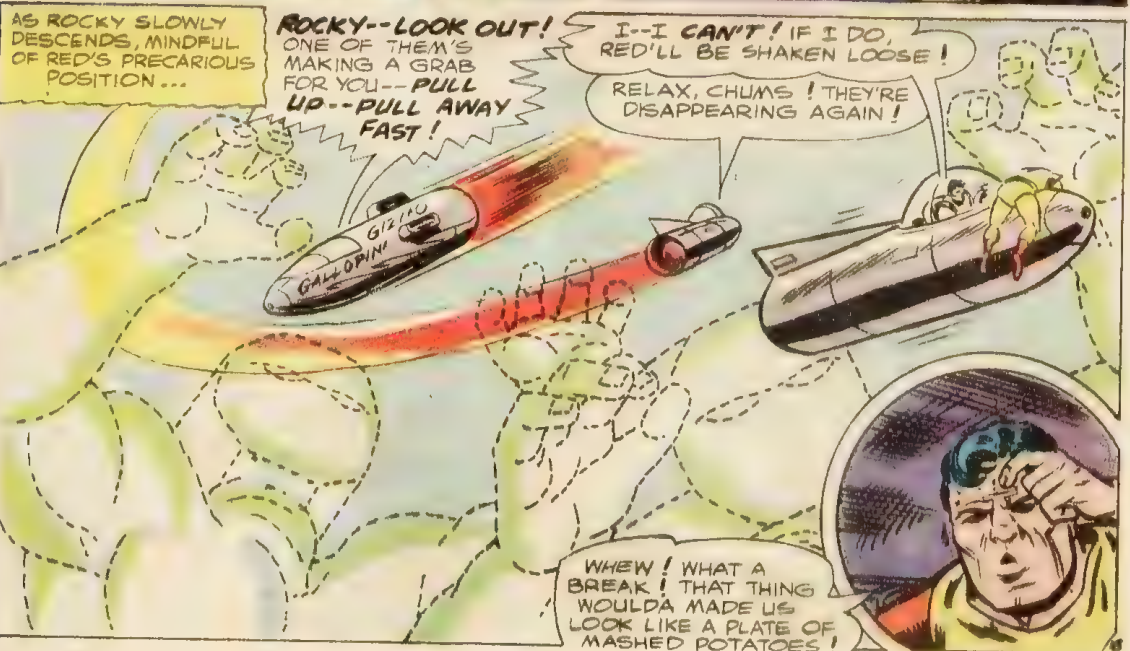
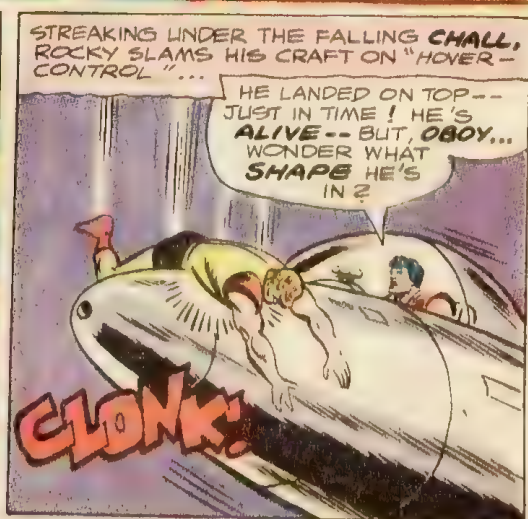
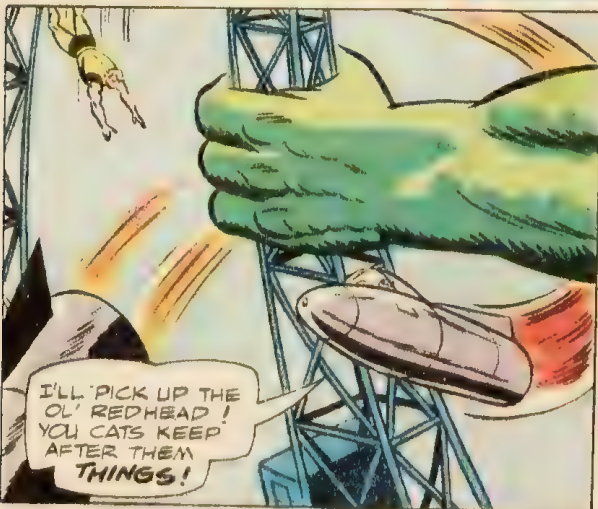
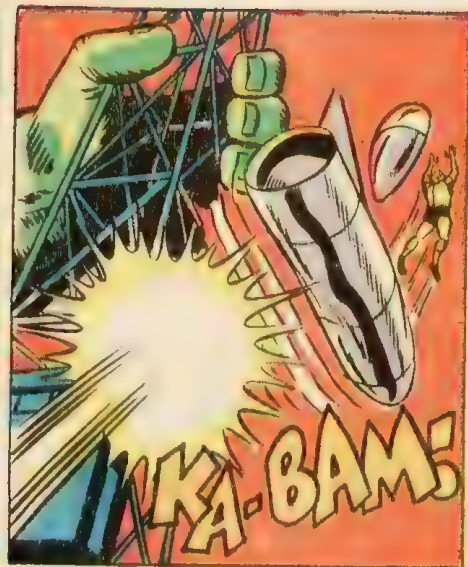
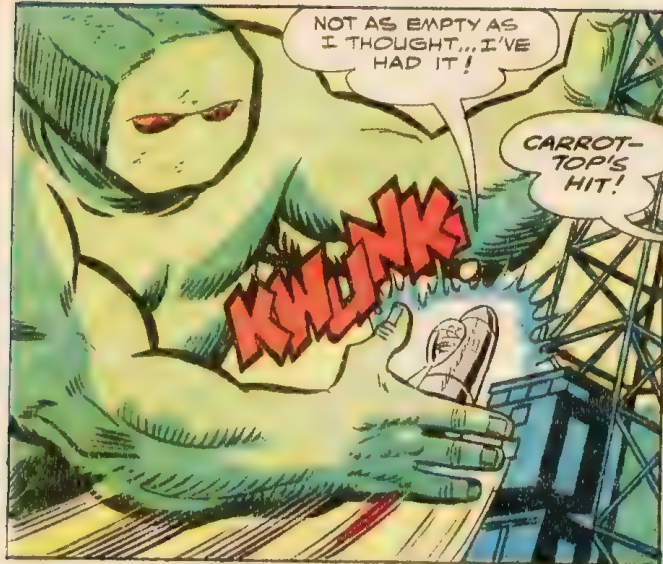
WE'VE GOT TO GO **RIGHT** IN AT 'EM--
KEEP 'EM BUSY--TILL
EVERYONE'S CLEAR
AWAY FROM HERE! WHAT'S
OUR BEST BET IN THE
WEAPON'S DEPARTMENT,
PROF?

LET'S FIND OUT WHAT MAKES
THEM TICK! SHOWER 'EM
IN THE "X-RAY BEAM!"
**EVERYBODY--AT
ONCE!**

WILL
DO!

HEY, CATS! AIN'T
THIS A SWINGER!
YOU CAN SEE
THROUGH 'EM--
LIKE THEY'RE
MADE OF
GLASS!

YEAH,
"MUSCLES!"
THEY'RE AS
EMPTY AS
YOUR HEAD!





HOW IS HE, ROCKY?

AW-W! HE'S OKAY! HIS HEAD'S EVEN HARDER 'N MINE!

JUST MY ARM... HURTS A LITTLE!

MIGHT AS WELL GIVE YOU THE BAD NEWS, RED--LOOKS LIKE IT'S BROKEN! YOU'RE OUT OF THE GAME FOR AWHILE!

C'MON--YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE ME RIDE THE BENCH, ARE YOU, COACH? CAN'T YOU KEEP ME IN THE BALL GAME?

EASY, RED--CAN'T TAKE CHANCES WITH THAT ARM!



WE'LL GET YOU TO A DOC!

WE'LL ALL BE GOING TO SEE A DOCTOR--IF WE DON'T FIND AN ANSWER TO THE **SUB-HUMANS**! SUPPOSE WE TRY TO PRY THEIR SECRET OUT OF **VILLO**!



LATER...

OF COURSE I KNOW ALL ABOUT THOSE **SUB-HUMANS**! ONLY **BRAINEX** AND I SHARE THEIR SECRET! SO I'LL MAKE A DEAL. GET ME OUT OF HERE, AND I'LL DESTROY THEM FOR YOU!

YOU SOUND LIKE AN OLD HUMPHREY BOGART MOVIE, **VILLO**! NO DEALS!



IDIOTS! NOBODY ELSE CAN POSSIBLY DESTROY THEM! IT WOULD BE LIKE TRYING TO KILL A **THOUGHT**! THEY ARE SUMMONED FROM A **CALCULUS** DIMENSION BY **BRAINEX**!

HOLD IT, ACE! CREATIONS OF **CALCULUS**! THAT'S FANTASTIC, BUT IT'S BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE NOW!



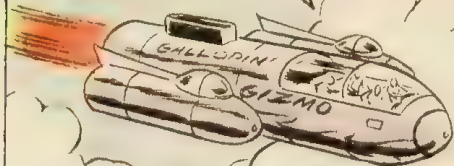
THEN WHAT ABOUT A DEAL, NOW THAT YOU'RE AWARE YOU WAGE A HOPELESS WAR? BEFORE YOU ANSWER--REMEMBER--THE **SUB-HUMANS** CAN WRECK HUMANITY!

STILL NO DEAL! YOU'RE BETTER OFF RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, **VILLO**!

WITH ONE OF THE **GALLOPIN GIZMO'S** SECTIONS REMOVED FOR REPAIRS, THE **OTHER** THREE PARTS STILL FUNCTION AS A UNIT...

THE LAST TIME WE TANGLED WITH **VILLO** AND HIS METAL BUDDY, I WAS **INSIDE BRAINEX**, REMEMBER? * EVEN THOUGH IT'S AMAZINGLY COMPLEX, I WAS ABLE TO UNDERSTAND SOME OF ITS MECHANISMS!

MEANING WHAT, PROF?



* WHO COULD EVER FORGET THAT INGENUOUS RUSE IN **CHALLS # 50**?

SO LET'S FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE--COMPUTER AGAINST COMPUTER! IF ONE OF THEM CAN SUMMON THE **SUB-HUMANS**, MAYBE ANOTHER CAN DESTROY THEM!

OBOY! IS THAT WILD!

YEAH, THAT IT IS, BUT JUST WILD ENOUGH TO WORK--MAYBE... IF... BUT...



STATE COLLEGE IS NEARBY. I CAN USE ITS LAB TO BUILD SOME THINGS SIMILAR TO **BRAINEX'S** INTO ONE OF ITS MACHINES! THEN WE SWEAT IT OUT!

ROCKY AND I'LL KEEP OUR EYES PEELED FROM THE **GIZMO**! SINCE HE'S OUT OF ACTION, RED CAN HELP YOU! RIGHT?

SURE, ACE! ISN'T IT TRUE BLONDES HAVE MORE FUN?



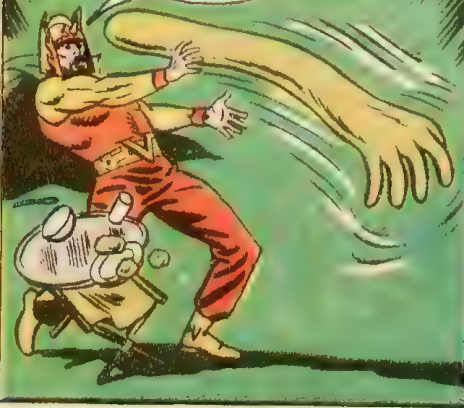
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING SURPRISING THE **CHALLS** SHOULD KNOW--BUT WON'T LEARN UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE...

SOME FOOD THEY SERVE HERE! THIS ROLL IS LIKE **RUBBER--**

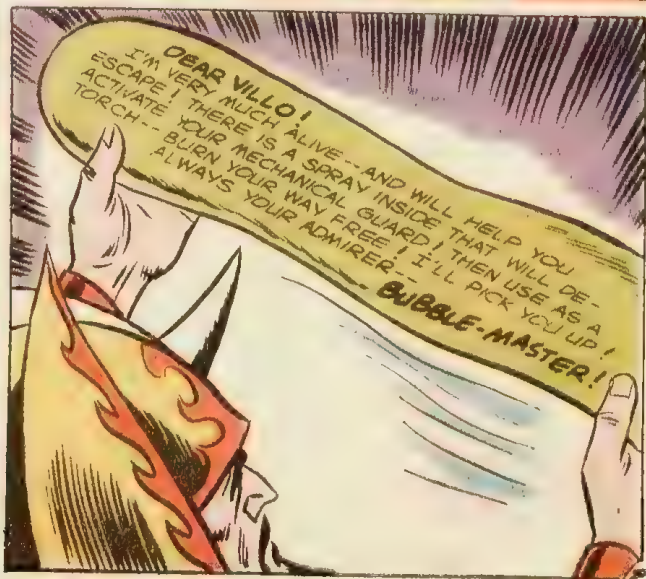


AMAZINGLY, THE "ROLL" BEGINS TO EXPAND...

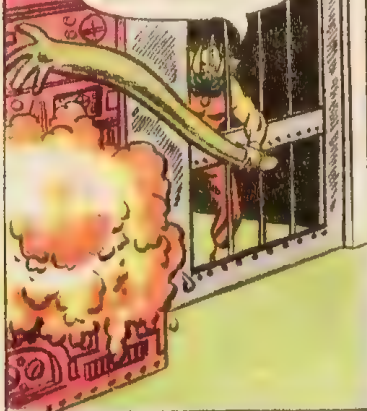
IT'S INFLATING-- LIKE A TRICK BALLOON! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT--NO! **BUBBLE-MASTER** IS DEAD!



DEAR **VILLO**! I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE--AND WILL HELP YOU ESCAPE! THERE IS A SPRAY INSIDE THAT WILL DE-ACTIVATE YOUR MECHANICAL GUARD! THEN USE AS A TORCH-- BURN YOUR WAY FREE! I'LL PICK YOU UP! ALWAYS YOUR ADMIRER-- **BUBBLE-MASTER!**



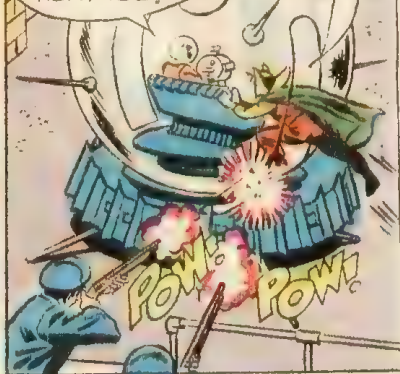
BUBBLE-MASTER--ALIVE?
AND HE STILL WANTS TO
SERVE ME? AH, WHAT A
STERLING IMPRESSION I
MADE ON HIM! NOW LET'S
SEE ABOUT THIS SPRAY
BUSINESS...



VERY INGENIOUS OF
BUBBLE-MASTER!
I CERTAINLY UNDER-
ESTIMATED HIS
CUNNING. MAYBE
I SHOULD RE-
CONSIDER HIM!

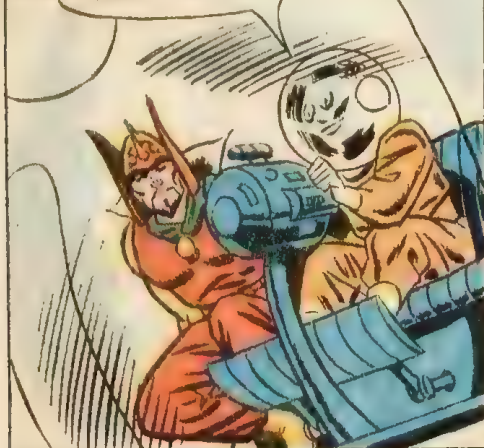


WELCOME ABOARD,
MASTER! I HID IN A
CLOUD BANK WHILE
WAITING, AND ZIPPED
DOWN AS SOON AS I
SPOTTED YOU!
RELAX--THOSE
SHOTS CAN'T
HURT YOU!



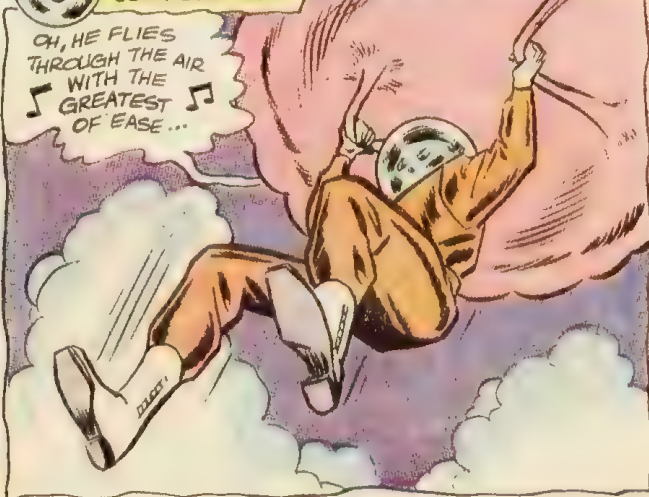
SO I SEE!
ALL RIGHT,
YOU
PROVED
YOUR
POINT!
NOW LET'S
GO!

ARE YOU WONDERING HOW I
MANAGED TO STAY ALIVE?
I MERELY HAD TO TRIGGER
MY BUBBLE GUN WHILE I
FELL AND...



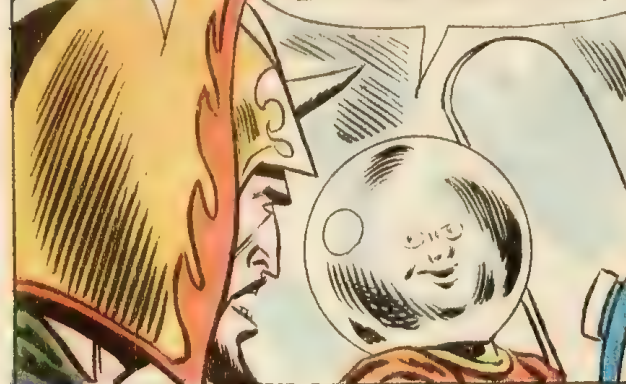
...I CREATED A PARACHUTE BUBBLE! I
DESCENDED IN PERFECT SAFETY AND
COMFORT...

OH, HE FLIES
THROUGH THE AIR
WITH THE
GREATEST
OF EASE...



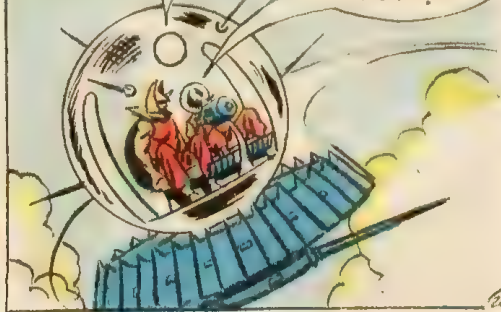
BUT EVEN THOUGH I
DOUBLE-CROSSED YOU--
EVEN TRIED TO KILL
YOU--YOU STILL
FREED ME FROM
THAT INFERNAL
PRISON! WHY?

SIMPLE, VILLO! SINCE
YOU'RE THE WORLD'S
WORST VILLAIN, I EX-
PECTED THE WORST
FROM YOU! OH--I WAS
ANGRY AT THE TIME--BUT
I COOLED OFF AND ACTUALLY
ADMIRED YOU FOR LIVING
UP TO YOUR REPUTATION!



VERY TOUCHING,
BUBBLE-MASTER
YOU'RE A MAN OF
VISION AND GREAT
UNDERSTANDING!
I'LL TRY TO CURB
MY EVIL ENTHUSIASM
CONCERNING YOU, AND
TREAT YOU AS AN
ALLY! NOW, LET'S
FIND **BRAINEX!**

WE'LL SEARCH THE
WORLD FOR HIM
IF WE HAVE TO,
VILLO! IMAGINE,
I'M ACTUALLY
WORKING WITH
YOU! THIS IS
THE GREATEST,
PROUDDEST DAY
OF MY LIFE! IF
ONLY MY MOTHER
COULD SEE ME
NOW!

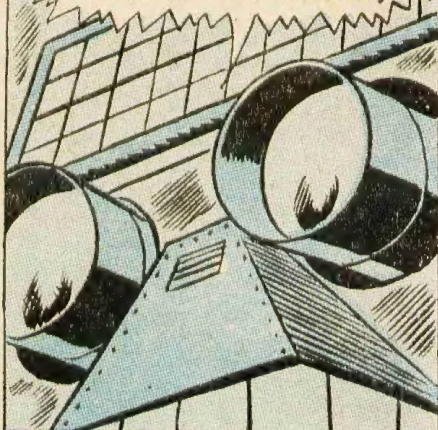


MEANWHILE,
IN VILLO'S
VILLA...

ONCE MY SENSORY
FACILITIES INFORMED
ME THAT **BUBBLE-
MASTER** STILL LIVED,
I ANTICIPATED **VILLO'S**
ESCAPE! I NOW MUST
PUT ON MY MOST
MAGNIFICENT
PERFORMANCE!



I'LL CONVINCE **VILLO** ONCE AND
FOR ALL THAT I AM THE MIGHTIEST
POWER ON EARTH--AND HAVE NO
NEED FOR HIM! GO FORTH, **SUB-
HUMANS** ... **DESTROY THE CITY!**
REDUCE IT TO RUBBLE!



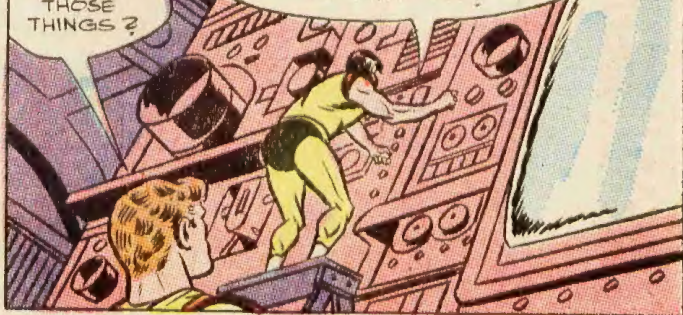
AND WHILE **ACE** AND **ROCKY** PATROL
THE SKIES...



...**PROF** AND **RED** WORK TIRELESSLY IN A **DRAMATIC RACE**
AGAINST TIME IN ONE OF THE **LABORATORIES** AT **STATE**
COLLEGE...

WHEN'LL WE
HAVE THIS
READY, **PROF**?--
AND WHAT
CHANCE
DO WE
HAVE
AGAINST
THOSE
THINGS?

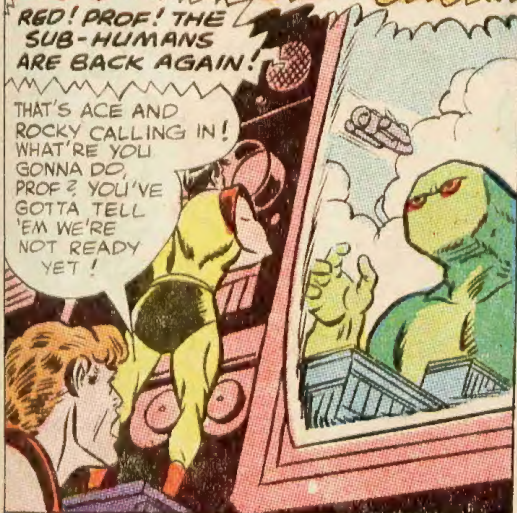
WE'LL BE READY BY NIGHTFALL!
BUT ONLY A COMPUTER KNOWS
ANOTHER COMPUTER'S "MIND!"
CAN IT TELL US WHAT THE **SUB-
HUMANS** ARE-- OR HOW TO
TAKE 'EM APART? WHO KNOWS?
LET'S FACE IT, FRIEND--THE
HUMAN MIND BOWS OUT
OF THIS ONE!



CLICKA-CLICKA-CLICKA

RED! **PROF!** THE
SUB-HUMANS
ARE BACK AGAIN!

THAT'S **ACE** AND
ROCKY CALLING IN!
WHAT'RE YOU
GONNA DO,
PROF? YOU'VE
GOTTA TELL
'EM WE'RE
NOT READY
YET!



POW!

WE HAVEN'T
ANY CHOICE,
RED! READY
OR NOT, I'M
THROWING THE
COMPUTER INTO
ACTION! HERE
WE GO--OR
HERE GOES
NOTHING!



CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

HERE GOES,
PAL--THE
WORKS!

THE SHATTERING SHOWDOWN... WAR WITHIN
A WAR! CHALLENGERS VS. SUB-HUMANS!
COMPUTER CLASHES WITH COMPUTER!
AND THE BATTLE PRIZE? MANKIND!!

THEY'RE IGNORING
US, ROCKY! GIVE
'EM A COUPLE OF
CONCENTRATED
ENERGY BLASTS!

YEAH--BUT
ALL WE GET'S
A BIG SO
WHAT...

CLICK-
CLICK-
CLICK!

CLICKA-
CLICKA!

VOOM

VOOM!

IT'S ABSORBING AN
UNKNOWN CALCULUS...
TRYING TO SOLVE IT!
IT KEEPS REJECTING--
REJECTING... CAN'T
FIGURE IT OUT! NO--
WAIT! IT'S GOT A
SUDDEN NEW
"THOUGHT!"

CLI-C-K...
CLI-C-K...

WHAT'S WRONG?
I'M SLOWING DOWN...
AS IF POWERFUL
EMANATIONS OPPOSE
ME...

CLICKA-
CLICKA
CLICKA!

WE'VE
SOLVED
THE
CALCULUS!
WE'RE
INTRUDING
ON IT--
SMASHING
IT!

KABLAM



I'VE LOST!
I DIDN'T PROVE
MY MASTERY
OVER MANKIND!

HUMILIATED BY HIS DEFEAT, BRAINEX FLASHES HIS PICK-UP RAY AND...

YOU AND YOUR SHOWY EFFECTS! WE OBSERVED THEM, BRAINEX-- AND I'M GLAD YOU FAILED! NOW YOU CAN SEE HOW MUCH WE NEED EACH OTHER AT THIS GAME!

TRUE, VILLO! THE TWO OF US TOGETHER ARE FAR GREATER THAN EITHER ONE OF US ALONE! THIS HAS BEEN A LESSON FOR US BOTH!



HOWEVER, IT WILL TAKE A LITTLE TIME FOR ME TO REGAIN MY ENERGY-POWER! UNTIL THEN, WE'RE STUCK HERE ON THE SEA'S BOTTOM!

BUT THE CHALLENGERS DON'T KNOW OUR LOCATION, AND WE HAVE A NEW, PART-TIME, JUNIOR PARTNER...



...BUBBLE-MASTER, WHO WILL HELP US SPEND THE TIME PLANNING A RAMPAGE THAT WILL BE COMPLETELY ANTI-WORLD!

VIVA VILLO!



AS FOR THE CHALLENGERS--SHOOK UP, BUT TRIUMPHANT--THERE REMAIN UNANSWERED QUESTIONS TO PONDER GRIMLY...

DID WE REALLY WIN IT ALL? OR IS THERE MORE SWINGIN' TROUBLE COMIN' OUR WAY?

UNTIL WE FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO VILLO, BRAINEX-- AND BUBBLE-MASTER-- I SUGGEST WE SLEEP WITH ONE EYE OPEN!



OR, MAYBE NOT SLEEP AT ALL-- BECAUSE THE WORLD'S VILEST TEAM OF EVIL-DOERS WILL BE BACK WITH STARTLING SCHEMES OF VENGEANCE!

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION (Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4359, Title 39, United States Code)

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Single Issue
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352,000	360,000
209,000	223,000
1,316	1,461
210,316	224,461
265	265
210,581	224,726
141,419	135,274
352,000	360,000

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. IRWIN DANENFELD, Business Manager.

LET'S CHAT WITH THE CHALLS

Address all mail to:
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National Periodicals
575 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022



Dear Editor: One of the greatest thrills you afforded me was seeing the Challenger-Haters in action. But lo, they haven't been around since No. 45, and I confess I miss the nastiness of these super-villains. Sure, you've given us a whole host of baddies—Villo and Brainex, Dimension Man, the Iron Dictator, to name a few—but none of them comes near that team of horrific Haters. So how's about it? Are we going to get another glimpse of them?

Bill Markow, Atlantic City, N.J.

Have you been gazing into our crystal ball or peeking over our shoulder, Billy-Boy? Our conglomeration of criminal kingpins—Kra, Volcano Man, Multi-Man, and Multi-Woman—have a date in the very next issue. That ace writer, amiable Arnold Drake, authored a prize-winning script for Bob Brown, with a cool climax that's sure to shake up every fan. —Ed.

* * *

SWAP SHOP: WANTED: Nos. 20-41, 44 by Leslie Lees, 222 Delmuth Ave., Ortleigh Beach, N.J. . . . 1-20 by Danny Vanden Eynden, 1552 Loretta Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43211 . . . 1-12, 14-19, 21, 23-32, 34-37, 39-44 by Gary Smith, 163 Blackstone Dr., Dayton, Ohio 45459 . . . 1-38, 40-49 by Mike Cobb, 3743 Brownley Dr., Macon, Ga. 31206 . . . 14, 20, 30, 40-47 by David E. Watson, RR No. 1, Tellico Rd., Madisonville, Tenn. 37354 . . . 1-3, 5-31, 33-37, 39-41, 43-45 by Alan Waddington, 4 Eddy St., Fairhaven, Mass. . . . 48-50 by Terry Crow, 425 W. Washington, Stephenville, Tex. . . . 40-45 by John Stewart II, 1219 Nolan St., San Antonio, Tex. 78202 . . . 1-44 by Kenneth Belden, 13049 Kismet Ave., Sylmar, Calif. 91342 . . . 1-7, 10-20 by Robert Lieberman, 2524 Hone Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10469.

FOR SALE: Nos. 1-40 by George Hartman, 659 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11226 . . . 36, 37, 40, 42, 47 and 49 by Barry Pajcic, 1600 Sunview Rd., Lyndhurst, Ohio 44124.

* * *

CHALLS' CHIT-CHAT: "Many times in reading comics some dialogue gets to me, leaving the story in my memory," says Mike Friedrich of Castro Valley, Calif. "Such a bit was in No. 52

in that exchange between Villo and Brainex in the last two panels of Page 6. This is the type of humor that belongs in comics, not the forced type of 'running dialogue' where the hero slugs it out with the villain, uttering so-called witticisms that have absolutely nothing to do with the story and merely detract from the art. Here's hoping the CHALLS are increased to eight times a year" . . . "How did the CHALLS get their hour-glass symbol?" chorus Peter Leach, Jeff Craig, Jimmy Young and Jim Bucklin from Whittier, Calif. (*A hero without a symbol on his chest? Are you putting us on? It's the latest fashion, and our stalwarts adopted this emblem to depict the fact they live on borrowed time. —Ed.*)

"No. 49 was sensational," writes Andrew Murro of Westbury, N.Y. "But will we be seeing Rocky wearing those super-gloves again? And as for those brutes, I sure go for the kookie kind." (*Great! You should have a ball with the Sub-Humans here. As for those mitts Muscles wore, he can pack a solid punch without 'em. —Ed.*) . . . "What made Miklos switch to the Sponge Man in No. 51?" asks Tim Sullivan, Jackson, Miss. (*Are you putting us on? He wasn't waterlogged, so we suggest you read the motivation again. —Ed.*) . . . "Must every female he meets fall for Ace? Must you keep omitting the CHALLS' own girl-helper, June Robbins?" persists Irene Vartanoff, Bethesda, Md. "Frankly, for a moment, I thought Judy of the 'Sea Devils' was June and was sorry to realize my mistake." (*Can we help it, Irene-honey, if the gals swoon over our blond-haired hero? But we can make sure June doesn't resemble any other female from here on in. Some artists invariably draw one type of favorite femme. —Ed.*)

"Please list the CHALLS' last names," scribbles Steve Keller of San Anton'. (So for those who came in late, they're Ace Morgan, Rocky Davis, Prof Haley, and Red Ryan. —Ed.) . . . Any CHALL fan with a chummy disposition want to be a pen-pal of three British lads? Write David Evans at 43 Derwent Rd., Hough Green, Widnes, Lancashire, England; Alan N. Fry, 23 Derwent Rd., or Alan Dundon, 27 Derwent.